THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). The data reporting system of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not generate such information.

(d) and (e). RBI has reported that it had conducted a sample study during February/March 1996 with a view to ascertaining the progress made by banks in implementation of Nayak Committee recommendations. It was observed from the scrutiny of reports on the bank branches covered by the study that in respect of 10.28% of the loan applications, there was delay in disposing the applications. Delay was attributed inter alia to non submission late submission of requisite documents by applicants, delay in obtaining no-due certificates, change in the activity of the borrowers, delay in obtaining power/water connections and lack of response from the applicants.

(f) Complaints from small scale industrial borrowers received in the Government generally pertain to inadequacy of assistance and delay in obtaining loans from banks. Such complaints are taken up with banks concerned for corrective measures.

[English]

Fiscal Deficit

1186. SHRI R. DEVADASS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the impact of the recent Postal/Telecom strike is reported to have cost the Government Rs. 1000 crores;

(b) if so, the extent to which the fiscal deficit is likely to increase further as a result thereof; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to contain the fiscal deficit at minimum?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). It is not possible to make an estimate at this stage. The position will be reflected in the Revised Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 1996-97 which will be finalised in due course.

(c) Government will endeavour to contain the fiscal deficit by maximising revenues and controlling expenditure.

[Translation]

Recovery of Loan from Industrial/ Agricultural Sectors

1187. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the comparative details in regard to the recovery of bank loans from industrial and agricultural sectors, State-wise, with a special reference to Bihar, as on 31 October, 1996;

(b) the details of such loans given during each of the last three years in the agricultural and industrial sectors, State-wise, particularly in Bihar; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to give more loans to the agriculture sector?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

Development of Handloom Industry

1188. SHRI LALIT ORAON :
SHRI S.P. JAISWAL :
SHRI SOHAN VEER SINGH :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of handloom textiles manufactured in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the financial assistance provided by the Government for the promotion of handloom industry during the said period, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to promote the handloom industry in the tribal areas in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) Handloom Industry is decentralised in nature and upkeep of data regarding production of cloth (State-wise) in this sector is difficult. The quantum of handloom cloth produced in the country during last three years is as follows :-

Year	Total Production (in million Sq. Mtrs.)
1993-94	5851
1994-95	6028
1995-96	7020

(b) The financial assistance provided by the Government for the promotion of handloom industry during last three years (state-wise) is enclosed as statement.

(c) All the Government Schemes are implemented for the benefit of the handloom weavers of all over the country including those belonging to tribal areas of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar also. Financial assistance is released on the basis of proposals received from State Governments & UTs as per guidelines of the schemes.